

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on October 14, 2008, and to expedite this application to allowance, Applicant submits the above amendments in accordance with the Examiner's indication that claims 7-12 and 22-27 would be in condition for allowance if rewritten to include intervening and base claims.

Applicant erroneously received a pre-appeal notice dated October 22, 2008 for the subject application. Examiner Rones investigated the matter and indicated that the pre-appeal notice received on October 22 was for another case and therefore should be discarded. Thus, Applicant submits this reply in response to the office action mailed on October 14, 2008.

Applicant encourages the Examiner to call the undersigned Attorney if the Examiner feels such a call would further prosecution of this application towards allowance.

Objection to Figures

The office action includes an objection to the figures. Applicant respectfully submits that, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, there is no rule that all text in the claims be included in respective steps of a flowchart in a non-provisional patent application. The only requirement is that the drawings in a nonprovisional application show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The pending claims are fully supported by both the original figures and corresponding text. Accordingly, respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

Conclusion

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3735.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-9660, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

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